

“(D) Award of an advanced certification by the Secretary of the military department concerned in core content areas based on—

“(i) accumulated points for professional activities, services to the profession, awards, and recognitions;

“(ii) professional development to meet content knowledge and instructional skills; and

“(iii) performance evaluation of competencies and standards within the program through site visits and inspections.”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

“2033. Instructor qualifications.”.

AMENDMENT NO. 4368

(Purpose: Relating to Operation Bahamas, Turks & Caicos)

At the end of subtitle C of title X, add the following:

SEC. 1024. OPERATION BAHAMAS, TURKS & CAICOS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) In 1982 the United States Government created Operation Bahamas, Turks & Caicos (OPBAT) to counter the smuggling of cocaine into the United States.

(2) According to the Drug Enforcement Agency, an estimated 80 percent of the cocaine entering the United States in the 1980s came through the Bahamas, whereas, according to the Office of National Drug Control Policy, only an estimated 10 percent comes through the Bahamas today.

(3) According to the Drug Enforcement Agency, more than 80,000 kilograms of cocaine and nearly 700,000 pounds of marijuana have been seized in Operation Bahamas, Turks & Caicos since 1986, with a combined street value of approximately two trillion dollars.

(4) The Army has provided military airlift to law enforcement officials under Operation Bahamas, Turks & Caicos to create an effective, reliable, and immediate response capability for drug interdiction. This support is largely responsible for the decline in cocaine shipments to the United States through the Bahamas.

(5) The Bahamas is an island nation composed of approximately 700 islands and keys, which makes aviation assets the best and most efficient method of transporting law enforcement agents and interdicting smugglers.

(6) It is in the interests of the United States to maintain the results of the successful Operation Bahamas, Turks & Caicos program and prevent drug smugglers from rebuilding their operations through the Bahamas.

(b) REPORT ON UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT SUPPORT FOR OPBAT.—

(1) REPORT ON DECISION TO WITHDRAW.—Not later than 30 days before implementing a decision to withdraw Department of Defense helicopters from Operation Bahamas, Turks & Caicos, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Congress a report outlining the plan for the coordination of the Operation Bahamas, Turks & Caicos mission, at the same level of effectiveness, using other United States Government assets.

(2) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary of Defense shall consult with the Secretary of State, the Attorney General, and the Secretary of Homeland Security, and with other appropriate officials of the United States Government, in preparing the report under paragraph (1).

(3) ELEMENTS.—The report under paragraph (1) on the withdrawal of equipment referred to in that paragraph shall include the following:

(A) An explanation of the military justification for the withdrawal of the equipment.

(B) An assessment of the availability of other options (including other Government helicopters) to provide the capability being provided by the equipment to be withdrawn.

(C) An explanation of how each option specified under subparagraph (B) will provide the capability currently provided by the equipment to be withdrawn.

(D) An assessment of the potential use of unmanned aerial vehicles in Operation Bahamas, Turks & Caicos, including the capabilities of such vehicles and any advantages or disadvantages associated with the use of such vehicles in that operation, and a recommendation on whether or not to deploy such vehicles in that operation.

AMENDMENT NO. 4497

(Purpose: To provide for an independent review and assessment of the organization and management of the Department of Defense for national security in space)

At the end of subtitle B of title IX, add the following:

SEC. 913. INDEPENDENT REVIEW AND ASSESSMENT OF DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT FOR NATIONAL SECURITY IN SPACE.

(a) INDEPENDENT REVIEW AND ASSESSMENT REQUIRED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense shall provide for an independent review and assessment of the organization and management of the Department of Defense for national security in space.

(2) CONDUCT OF REVIEW.—The review and assessment shall be conducted by an appropriate entity outside the Department of Defense selected by the Secretary for purposes of this section.

(3) ELEMENTS.—The review and assessment shall address the following:

(A) The requirements of the Department of Defense for national security space capabilities, as identified by the Department, and the efforts of the Department to fulfill such requirements.

(B) The future space missions of the Department, and the plans of the Department to meet the future space missions.

(C) The actions that could be taken by the Department to modify the organization and management of the Department over the near-term, medium-term, and long-term in order to strengthen United States national security in space, and the ability of the Department to implement its requirements and carry out the future space missions, including the following:

(i) Actions to exploit existing and planned military space assets to provide support for United States military operations.

(ii) Actions to improve or enhance current interagency coordination processes regarding the operation of national security space assets, including improvements or enhancements in interoperability and communications.

(iii) Actions to improve or enhance the relationship between the intelligence aspects of national security space (so-called “black space”) and the non-intelligence aspects of national security space (so-called “white space”).

(iv) Actions to improve or enhance the manner in which military space issues are addressed by professional military education institutions.

(4) LIAISON.—The Secretary shall designate at least one senior civilian employee of the Department of Defense, and at least one general or flag officer of an Armed Force, to serve as liaison between the Department, the Armed Forces, and the entity conducting the review and assessment.

(b) REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the entity conducting the review and assessment shall submit to the Secretary and the congressional defense committees a report on the review and assessment.

(2) ELEMENTS.—The report shall include—

(A) the results of the review and assessment; and

(B) recommendations on the best means by which the Department may improve its organization and management for national security in space.

AMENDMENT NO. 4222

(Purpose: To require consideration of the utilization of fuel cells as back-up power systems in Department of Defense operations)

At the end of subtitle F of title III, add the following:

SEC. 375. UTILIZATION OF FUEL CELLS AS BACK-UP POWER SYSTEMS IN DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE OPERATIONS.

The Secretary of Defense shall consider the utilization of fuel cells as replacements for current back-up power systems in a variety of Department of Defense operations and activities, including in telecommunications networks, perimeter security, and remote facilities, in order to increase the operational longevity of back-up power systems and stand-by power systems in such operations and activities.

AMENDMENT NO. 4498

(Purpose: To authorize an accession bonus for members of the Armed Forces who are appointed as a commissioned officer after completing officer candidate school)

At the end of subtitle B of title VI, add the following:

SEC. 620. ACCESSION BONUS FOR MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES APPOINTED AS COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AFTER COMPLETING OFFICER CANDIDATE SCHOOL.

(a) ACCESSION BONUS AUTHORIZED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 5 of title 37, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“§ 329. Special pay: accession bonus for officer candidates

“(a) ACCESSION BONUS AUTHORIZED.—Under regulations prescribed by the Secretary concerned, a person who, during the period beginning on October 1, 2006, and ending on December 31, 2007, executes a written agreement described in subsection (b) may, upon acceptance of the agreement by the Secretary concerned, be paid an accession bonus in an amount not to exceed \$8,000 determined by the Secretary concerned.

“(b) AGREEMENT.—A written agreement described in this subsection is a written agreement by a person—

“(1) to complete officer candidate school;

“(2) to accept a commission or appointment as an officer of the armed forces; and

“(3) to serve on active duty as a commissioned officer for a period specified in such agreement.

“(c) PAYMENT METHOD.—Upon acceptance of a written agreement under subsection (a) by the Secretary concerned, the total amount of the accession bonus payable under the agreement becomes fixed. The agreement shall specify whether the accession bonus will be paid in a lump sum or installments.

“(d) REPAYMENT.—A person who, having received all or part of the bonus under a written agreement under subsection (a), does not complete the total period of active duty as a commissioned officer as specified in such agreement shall be subject to the repayment provisions of section 303a(e) of this title.”.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 5 of such